THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Total number of small scale units was estimated to be 20.82 lakhs till 1991-92. The information on number of functioning units is not maintained. The capital investment on Plant and Machinery till 1991-92 was estimated at Rs. 11691.64 crores.

(c) The percentage of sick units was 11.80 during 1991-92 as reported by the Reserve Bank of India. RBI data on sick SSI units, however, also includes traditional industries, such as, handloom, handicraft, KVI etc.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Coir Technology Park

1383. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been setting up Coir Technology Parks in Gujarat;

(b) the details thereof; and

(c) the action plan of the Government of Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Schemes for downtrodden in Khadi and Village Industries

1384. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes launched by Khadi and Village Industries Commission for providing self-employment to the handicapped, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Minorities, Backward and poor people living below the poverty line in the country particularly in the State of U.P.;

(b) if so, the details of families benefited under the schemes during the last three years in the country, district-wise/year-wise; and

(c) whether Government have chalked out any new comprehensive scheme to improve the standard of living of poor people in the country, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Under the Margin Money Scheme of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), the margin money grant is being provided @ 30% to SCs/STs/OBCs/Minorities etc. instead of @ 25% for General Category for setting up viable village industries projects costing upto Rs. 10 lakhs.

The details of the employment generated under village industries programme of the KVIC are as follows:

	Employment of lakhs	
Year	**VI (All India)**	**UP State**
1996-97	43.38	5.92
1997-98	42.49	5.04
1998-99	44.44	5.33

District-wise details of families benefited under the Scheme are not being maintained.

(c) No, Sir. The existing Schemes are continuning.

Comprehensive Policy for SSI

1385. SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a comprehensive policy for the Small Scale Industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) A comprehensive new policy on the Small Scale Sector is under finalisation.